

Macaroni Penguin *Eudyptes chrysolophus* moulting on Gough Island, South Atlantic

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Un Gorfou doré *Eudyptes chrysolophus* en mue à l'île Gough, Atlantique Sud. Un Gorfou doré *Eudyptes chrysolophus* en mue a été photographié à l'île Gough, Atlantique Sud, le 28 février 2013. Il a été observé pour la dernière fois le 9 mars, quand il avait complété environ deux tiers de sa mue. Le Gorfou doré est un visiteur assez rare de l'archipel de Tristan da Cunha, situé plus au nord à 37°S, mais il n'y a qu'une donnée antérieure pour Gough, de mars 1993.

On 28 February 2013 a Macaroni Penguin *Eudyptes chrysolophus* was observed at Seal Beach, Gough Island, in the central South Atlantic (40°S 10°W). The bird's short crest suggests that it was a subadult. It was loafing 25 m from a breeding colony of Northern Rockhopper Penguins *E. moseleyi*. From the appearance of the bird's feathers, it was apparently beginning to moult (Fig. 1). The bird was observed again at the same spot on 5 March, by which time it was in heavy moult (Fig. 2), and for the last time on 9 March, when its moult was approximately two-thirds completed. No further visits were made to Seal Beach until 31 March, on which date there was no sign of the bird.

The only previous record of a Macaroni Penguin on Gough dates from March 1993, also at Seal Beach (Hänel *et al.* 2005), but the species is a scarce visitor to the Tristan da Cunha archipelago, further north at 37°S (Ryan 2007). The Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha recorded a moulting Macaroni Penguin among Northern Rockhopper Penguins at Blenden Hall, Inaccessible Island, on 3 March 1938 (Hagen 1952) and were informed by their local guides that Macaroni Penguins, which they called 'King Penguins', came ashore occasionally on both Inaccessible and Nightingale.

Macaroni Penguin breeds on islands close to the Antarctic Convergence throughout the South



Figures 1–2. Macaroni Penguin *Eudyptes chrysolophus*, Gough Island, South Atlantic, at the onset of moult, 28 February 2013 (left) and in advanced moult, 5 March 2013 (Mara Nydegger)

Gorfou doré *Eudyptes chrysolophus* commençant sa mue, île Gough, Atlantique Sud, 28 février 2013 (à gauche) et en mue avancée, 5 mars 2013 (Mara Nydegger)

Atlantic and southern Indian Oceans (Marchant & Higgins 1990). Those breeding colonies nearest to Gough are on Bouvetøya and South Georgia (Marchant & Higgins 1990), c.1,800 km and 2,500 km distant, respectively. The species regularly disperses up to 2,000 km during the post-breeding period, although usually with more longitudinal than latitudinal movement (Bost *et al.* 2009). Vagrants have been recorded in New Zealand and Australia (Marchant & Higgins 1990), South Africa (Hockey *et al.* 2005) and as far south as 67°S, on Avian Island, Antarctic Peninsula (Gorman *et al.* 2009). Non-breeders and failed breeders return to their colonies to moult in January–February, whereas breeders return later in March to moult (Williams & Croxall 1991). Many records of vagrant penguins are of birds forced ashore to moult (Hockey *et al.* 2005) and the Macaroni Penguin we observed was probably one of these cases.

Acknowledgements

We thank Peter Ryan, Antje Steinfurth and John Cooper for their editorial comments and encouragement. Research on Gough Island is supported by the South African National Antarctic Programme, via the National Research Foundation and Department of Environment Affairs, with permission from Tristan's Conservation Department.

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Received 15 November 2013; revision accepted 17 December 2013.

Correction to Anderson (2010): First records of eight bird species for Eritrea (*Bull. ABC* 17: 66–70)

Jason Anderson

Rectification de Anderson (2010) : Première mention de huit espèces d'oiseaux pour l'Éritrée (*Bull. ABC* 17: 66–70). Anderson (2010) présentait ses observations de l'Érismature maccoa *Oxyura maccoa* en 2008–09 comme les premières pour le pays. L'espèce avait toutefois déjà été observée par Kasperek (1998) et Zinner (2001).

In Anderson (2010), I claimed the first records for Maccoa Duck *Oxyura maccoa* in Eritrea

based on seven sightings of birds on reservoirs in the highlands between April 2008 and February